



# How to write notes





بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful





Assalamu'alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu,

We pray that this message reaches you  
in good health and imaan.

On behalf of our AMAU Academy team, we would like  
to present to you these compiled notes that we have  
prepared to make your journey with us a lot easier.

Our notes are compiled by the AMAU Admin team  
and have not been comprehensively checked  
by a teacher.

If you find any errors or corrections that need  
to be made, kindly inform us via our email  
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May Allah make our paths toward seeking  
beneficial knowledge easy and kindle our hearts  
with sincerity and gratefulness  
towards Him.

Jazakumullahu Khayran



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# Glossary



جل جلاله | Jalla Jalāluhu  
**Allah the Most Exalted**



صلى الله عليه وسلم | Sallāllāhu Alayhi Wa Sallam  
**Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him**

# The Virtue of Writing in the Qur'an

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*Chapter One*

Allah said in the Qur'an:

1

الرَّحْمَنُ ۙ عَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ ۚ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ ۚ عَلَّمَهُ الْبَيَانَ ۚ

The Most Merciful (1) Taught the Qur'ān, (2) Created man, (3) [And] taught him eloquence. (4)

Surah Ar Rahman 1-4

**Al-Bayan** (to clarify) is of **two types**.\*

- a) Al-Bayan An-Nutqi: Oral clarification
- b) Al-Bayan Al-Khatti: Written clarification

\*Miftah Dar As-S'aadah

Allah said in the Qur'an:

2

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ۚ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ۚ اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ ۚ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ۚ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ۝

Recite in the name of your Lord who created (1) Created man from a clinging substance. (2) Recite, and your Lord is the most Generous - (3) Who taught by the pen (4) Taught man that which he knew not. (5)

Surah Al-'Alaq 1-5

‘Allama Bil Qalam (Who taught by the pen) shows the virtue of writing.\*

\*Miftah Dar As-S'aadah

# The Virtue of Writing in the Sunnah

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*Chapter Two*



The Prophet ﷺ said:

- 1"اكتبُوا لِأَبِي شَاهٍ"  
"Write it for Abu Shah."  
Sahih Al-Bukhari 2434

The fact that the Prophet ﷺ told his Companions رضي الله عنهم to write for Abu Shah رضي الله عنه indicates the virtue of writing as that is how knowledge is preserved.

The Prophet ﷺ also said:

- 2"إِذَا مَاتَ الْإِنْسَانُ انْقَطَعَ عَنْهُ عَمَلُهُ إِلَّا مِنْ ثَلَاثَةٍ إِلَّا مِنْ صَدَقَةٍ جَارِيَةٍ أَوْ عِلْمٍ يُنْتَفَعُ بِهِ أَوْ وَلَدٍ صَالِحٍ يَدْعُو لَهُ"  
When a man dies, his acts come to an end, but three, recurring charity, or knowledge (by which people) benefit, or a pious son, who prays for him (for the deceased).  
Sahih Muslim 1631

Writing falls under “أَوْ عِلْمٍ يُنْتَفَعُ بِهِ” and that is what many of the great scholars of Islam did. For example, Ar-Risala by Imam Ash-Shafi’ee is a written work that is used until today.

# The Virtue of Writing According to the Salaf

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*Chapter Three*

- 1
- أبو صالح الفراء قال: سألت ابن المبارك عن كتاب الحديث فقال: "لولا الكتاب ما حفظنا"  
**Abu Salih Al-Farra’ said, “I asked ibn Al-Mubarak about writing down the Hadith, to which Ibn Al-Mubarak replied, ‘if it wasn’t for writing, we wouldn’t have memorised.’”**

This shows that it is by writing that one memorises Hadith, which shows how virtuous it is given the importance of memorisation.

**Side benefit:** You can look up these individuals and others as you come across them in books like Siyar A’lam An-Nubala’ by Ath-Thahabi.

- 2
- الربيع قال: خرج علينا الشافعي ذات يوم ونحن مجتمعون فقال لنا: "اعلموا رحمكم الله أن هذا العلم يند كما تند الإبل فاجعلوا الكتب له حمة والأقلام عليه رعاة"  
**Ar-Rabee’ said, “Ash-Shafi’ee came out to us one day whilst we were gathered and said to us, ‘know, may Allah have mercy upon you, that this knowledge will run away from you as the camels run. So protect it with books and trap it with pens.’”**

Ash-Shafi’ee also said in lines of poetry

قيد صيودك بالحبال الوثاقه

العلم صيد والكتابة قيده

وتتركها بين الخلائق طالقة

فمن حماقه أن تصيد غزالة

**Knowledge is hunting and writing is its tying rope**  
**so use a strong rope to tie down your prey.**  
\*\*\*  
**It is from dim-wittedness to hunt a gazelle**  
**and then leave it to freely roam around**

These quotes and lines of poetry from the Salaf indicate the importance of writing as a means to acquiring knowledge and keeping it preserved.

# The Impermissibility of Writing

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*Chapter Four*

The Prophet ﷺ said:

1 "لَا تَكْتُبُوا عَنِّي وَمَنْ كَتَبَ عَنِّي غَيْرَ الْقُرْآنِ فَلْيَمْحُهُ وَحَدِّثُوا عَنِّي وَلَا حَرَجَ وَمَنْ كَذَبَ عَلَيَّ - قَالَ هَمَّامٌ أَحْسِبُهُ قَالَ - مُتَعَمِّدًا فَلْيَتَّبِعُوا مَقْعَدَهُ مِنَ النَّارِ"

“Do not write down anything from me, and he who has written down anything from me except the Qur'an, he should wipe it but narrate from me for there is no harm in it, and he who attributed any falsehood to me - and Hammam said: I think he also said:" deliberately" - he should prepare his place in the Hellfire.”

Sahih Muslim 3004

The **first opinion**: That writing is Makrooh (Haram), except for the Qur'an.

**Side benefit:** The term “Karaha” has two usages. For the Mutaqaddimeen (those who came early) it means Haram. As for the Muta’akhkhireen (those who came later) it means disliked.

From the Companions رضي الله عنهم who held this opinion:

- ‘Umar ibn Al-Khattab رضي الله عنه
- Abi Sa’eed Al-Khudri رضي الله عنه
- Ibn Mas’oud رضي الله عنه
- Abi Musa Al-Ash’ari رضي الله عنه
- Ibn ‘Abbas رضي الله عنه
- Ibn ‘Umar رضي الله عنه
- Al-Mugheerah رضي الله عنه

From the Tabi’een who held this opinion:

- ‘Ubaidullah ibn Mas’oud
- ‘Abidatah As-Salamani
- Ad-Dhahhak ibn Muzahim
- Al-A’mash



# The Permissibility of Writing



*Chapter Five*

The Prophet ﷺ said:

- 1 "لَا تَكْتُبُوا عَنِّي وَمَنْ كَتَبَ عَنِّي غَيْرَ الْقُرْآنِ فَلْيَمْحُهُ وَحَدِّثُوا عَنِّي وَلَا حَرَجَ وَمَنْ كَذَبَ عَلَيَّ - قَالَ هَمَّامٌ أَحْسِبُهُ قَالَ - مُتَعَمِّدًا فَلْيَتَّبِعُوا مَقْعَدَهُ مِنَ النَّارِ"

**“Do not write down anything from me, and he who has written down anything from me except the Qur'an, he should wipe it but narrate from me for there is no harm in it, and he who attributed any falsehood to me - and Hammam said: I think he also said:” deliberately” - he should prepare his place in the Hellfire.”**

Sahih Muslim 3004

The **second opinion**: That writing is permissible.

From the Companions رضي الله عنهم who held this opinion:

- **Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه**
- **‘Umar ibn Al-Khattab رضي الله عنه**
- **‘Uthman ibn ‘Affan رضي الله عنه**
- **‘Ali ibn Abi Talib رضي الله عنه**
- **Abi Sa’eed Al-Khudri رضي الله عنه**
- **Anas ibn Malik رضي الله عنه**

An-Nawawi, ibn Hajar, and others have transmitted Ijma’ (consensus) in regards to the permissibility of writing and they used the following pieces of evidence from the Qur'an and Sunnah:

Allah said in the Qur'an:

- 2 يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِذَا تَدَايَنْتُمْ بِدَيْنٍ إِلَىٰ أَجَلٍ مُّسَمًّى فَاكْتُبُوهُ ۚ وَلْيَكْتُب بَيْنَكُمْ كَاتِبٌ بِالْعَدْلِ ۚ وَلَا يَأْبَ كَاتِبٌ أَنْ يَكْتُبَ كَمَا عَلَّمَهُ اللَّهُ

**O you who have believed, when you contract a debt for a specified term, write it down. And let a scribe write [it] between you in justice. And Let no scribe refuse to write as Allāh has taught him.**

Surah Al-Baqara 282

The Prophet ﷺ said:

- 3 "اَكْتُبُوا لِأَبِي شَاهٍ"  
**"Write it for Abu Shah."**

Sahih Al-Bukhari 2434

The Prophet ﷺ also said:

- 4 "اَكْتُبْ فَوَالَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ مَا يَخْرُجُ مِنْهُ إِلَّا حَقٌّ"

**Write, by Him in Whose hand my soul lies, only right comes out from it.**

Sunan Abi Dawud 3646

To reconcile between the Ahadith, the scholars mention that the prohibition was during the time the Qur'an was being revealed as the Prophet ﷺ was worried that the Sahaba رضي الله عنهم will mix between the Qur'an and the Hadith. Other scholars mention that the prohibition was on writing both (Qur'an and Hadith) on a single scroll.

# Writing Down Benefits

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*Chapter Six*

There are **two types** of benefits:

- a) Benefits that must be remembered i.e. the main objectives
- b) Benefits that are secondary

Methods of recording benefits:

- a) Writing them down on the book itself
  - *Front: summary and table of contents*
  - *Middle: notes and benefits*
  - *End: benefits taken from the book*
- b) Writing them down on sticky notes
- c) Writing them down in a notebook
- d) Recording them by audio
- e) Writing them down on a paper and sticking it to a wall





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